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COMPARATIVE TRANSLATION: I CORINTHIANS 13:9-12.

A STUDY IN MODERNIZING THE ENGLISH BIBLE.

Ἐκ μέρους γὰρ γινώσκομεν καὶ ἐκ μέρους προφητεύομεν· ὅταν δὲ ἔλθῃ τὸ τέλειον, τὸ ἐκ μέρους καταργηθήσεται. ὅτε ἤμην νήπιος, ἐλάλουν ὡς νήπιος, ἐφρόνουν ὡς νήπιος, ἐλογιζόμην ὡς νήπιος· ὅτε γέγονα ἀνὴρ, κατήργηκα τὰ τοῦ νηπίου. βλέπομεν γὰρ ἄρτι δι' ἐσόπτρου ἐν αἰνίγματι, τότε δὲ πρόσωπον πρὸς πρόσωπον· ἄρτι γινώσκω ἐκ μέρους, τότε δὲ ἐπιγνώσομαι καθὼς καὶ ἐπεγνώσθην.

—*Westcott-Hort Greek Text, 1881.*

For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

—*Authorized Version, 1611.*

For we know in part, and we prophesy in part: but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child: now that I am become a man, I have put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I have been known [R. V. (Am.) know fully even as also I was fully known].

—*Revised Version (British Edition), 1881.*

—*Revised Version (American Standard Edition), 1901.*

Our knowledge is incomplete, and our prophesying incomplete, but as soon as Perfection has come, what is incomplete will be cast aside. When I was a child, I talked like a child, thought like a child, reasoned like a child; now that I am a man, I have cast childish ways aside. As yet we see things dimly, reflected in a mirror, but then—face to face! As yet my knowledge is incomplete, but then it will be as full as God's knowledge of me is now.

—*Twentieth Century New Testament, 1900.*

For our knowledge is imperfect, and so is our prophesying; but when the perfect state of things is come, all that is imperfect will be brought to an end. When I was a child, I talked like a child, felt like a child, reasoned like a child: when I became a man, I put from me childish ways. For the present we see things as if in a mirror, and are puzzled; but then we shall see them face to face. For the present the knowledge I gain is imperfect; but then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

—*Weymouth, Modern Speech New Testament, 1903.*

For in part we know and in part we prophesy :
 But when that which is perfect arrives,
 That which is in part shall be done away.
 When I was a child,
 Like a child I talked,
 Like a child I felt,
 Like a child I reasoned :
 Now that I have become a man,
 I am done with childish things.
 For at present we look through a mirror, dimly,
 But then it will be face to face :
 At present I know in part,
 But then I shall fully know, as also I am fully known.

—*Moffatt, Historical New Testament, 1901.*

For we have imperfect knowledge,
 And we declare God's truth imperfectly,
 But when perfection has come,
 Imperfection will be done away.
 When I was a child
 I used to talk as a child,
 I used to feel as a child,
 I used to think as a child.
 But now that I have become a man,
 I have given up the ways of a child.
 For as yet we see things dimly as in a poor mirror,
 But then, face to face.
 As yet my knowledge is imperfect,
 But then I shall know perfectly, just as I am perfectly known.

—*Ballentine, American Bible, 1901.*

Our future perfection in love will be as much greater than our present spiritual endowments and attainments as the speech and thought of mature manhood are superior to those of childhood. For how imperfect is our present apprehension of divine things! Our present knowledge of them is only indirect and unclear; but in the future life it will be direct and immediate; now it is partial, but then shall I plainly know spiritual things with a knowledge like that of God.

—*Stevens, Messages of the Bible, 1900.*

Love is the chief thing in this life, not knowledge. Our knowledge is necessarily limited and imperfect, for we are in the child-stage of growth. Our thought is like the dim, inexact image in a polished metal mirror. But when the new Messianic age comes we shall have perfect knowledge; we shall know then as God knows now. Meanwhile, and always, love is supreme.

—BIBLICAL WORLD.